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BRITISH SHIPS INTERCEPT BLOCKADE RUNNER WITH 700 JEWS ABOARD; TRAIL SECOND VESSEL

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19. (JTA)--A British naval unit today intercepted a blockade runner with 700 refugees aboard and was following a second immigrant ship, waiting for it to enter Palestine waters before boarding it. The captured vessel, one of the Haganah fleet of blockade runners, is named the Amamiuth (Nationhood).

One British soldier was killed and two seriously wounded when they were shot by two Jews in the center of Jerusalem. The Irgun later assumed responsibility for the attack, explaining that it was carried out against "enemy soldiers" in reprisal for the blasting of Jewish-owned houses by British troops. Towards evening two British policemen were seriously wounded near the Machne Yehuda market, while a 17-year-old Jewish youth was seriously injured when he was shot at in the Romema quarter.

Four Arabs were killed and three wounded when a bus in which they were driving along the Bethlehem road was attacked by the Haganah in reprisal for an Arab attack on a Jewish bus headed for Talpith in which the driver and three passengers were injured.

Settlers at the Jewish colony of Dan, the southernmost settlement in the Negev, today beat off three heavy attacks by a large band of Arabs. The guerrillas, most of whom were mounted on camels, approached to within several hundred feet of the colony's defense perimeter before the Haganah men opened fire. Two more waves of infantry and camel cavalry were fought off before the Arabs retreated, taking their dead and wounded with them. There were no Jewish casualties.

Another band was beaten off when it attempted to overwhelm the Jewish settlement of Kfar Yavetz, closest Jewish colony to the Arab stronghold of Tulkarm, from which the raiders came. A British version of the incident, quoting Arab sources, says that the Jews attempted to steal cattle from the Arabs, using mortars to drive the Arabs off. Two Arabs in another land, near Kfar Uriah, west of Jerusalem, were killed by the Haganah after the guerrillas had caught and murdered a Haganah scout.

Arab Legionnaires Reported Withdrawn From Haifa

Three Jews were killed and seven were wounded when a Jewish-owned bus was fired on by Arabs in Haifa. The Arab Legion unit encamped near Haifa, which has been responsible for a number of such attacks on Jews, was reported today to have been transferred to another area, following repeated protests by the Jewish Agency.

A Jewish road patrol this morning discovered and dismantled a barrel bomb which had been set up as a landmine on the main Jerusalem-Tel Aviv road. A Jew was seriously wounded by sniper fire on the Jaffa-Tel Aviv border. British troops chased off Jewish policemen attempting to halt the looting of Jewish stores in the unfenced Jaffa boundary line sector. After the Jews were forced to retreat, the Arabs resumed their thievery.

DISCUSSIONS ON COMPOSITION OF TEMPORARY JEWISH GOVERNMENT OPEN IN TEL AVIV

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Discussions among various political parties in Palestine concerning the composition of the temporary Jewish government opened today in Tel Aviv.

The first proposal submitted to the parley by the Jewish Agency was that the 30-man Provisional Council of Government should consist of ten Agency members living in Palestine, 16 members of the Jewish National Council, and one each from the Revisionists, Citizens Bloc, Communists and Sephardic community.

It was also suggested that the number of ministers with portfolios should be set at ten. The opposition parties, however, proposed that the Government Council be elected according to the parties' strength in the last Zionist Congress and in the Jewish National Assembly.

Palestine Government Decides to Give \$1,200,000 to Arab Council

The Palestine Government suddenly announced today that it will give \$1,200,000 to the Supreme Moslem Council in one lump sum "because of the pressing needs of the Council." This money, a government communique said, should have been paid to the Arab body in 1942.

The announcement came as a surprise to the Jews not only because of the government decision to supply the Arabs with a large sum of money, but also because of the fact that the Palestine administration suddenly remembered that it "owes" the Moslem Council a long-forgotten debt. The money will, no doubt, be spent to strengthen Arab violence against Jews, since the ex-Mufti is still in control of the Council.

It has been known here for some time that the Palestine Arab Higher Committee has been passing through a severe financial crisis since the departure of many wealthy Palestine Arabs who fled the country following the outbreak of hostilities. The bulk of the money which the Government now is making available to the Council will actually be coming from the Jewish community, since three-quarters of the government budget is contributed by Palestine's Jews.

IRGUN CHARGES BRITAIN CONSPIRING WITH ARAB LEAGUE STATES FOR DIVISION OF PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Charges that Britain is conspiring with the Arab League states to divide Palestine among them in return for British military hegemony in the Middle East were made here last night by the Irgun Zvai Leumi.

In a clandestine broadcast the underground stated that it had received reliable information that Brigadier I.W. Clayton, head of British Intelligence in the Middle East, had offered the Arab League a plan calling for a collective agreement between the League and Britain and separate pacts with each of the seven League members and providing for the establishment of a collective defense council. Britain would also receive military bases throughout the Middle East.

The British plan envisages the partition of Palestine among the Arab states as follows: western Galilee, as far south as Shave Zion, to Lebanon; the eastern section of Upper Galilee and part of Lower Galilee to Syria; the Beisan Valley, extending across the width of the land to include Haifa and Nazareth, to Transjordan; and, the southern section of the country, as far north as Jaffa and including the Negev, to Egypt. The Irgun broadcast also stated that Britain would receive the coastal strip from Tel Aviv to Haifa in the form of a protectorate over an autonomous area.

U.S. DELEGATE CENSURES IRAQ REPRESENTATIVE AT TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL FOR SLUR ON PARTITION

LAKE SUCCESS, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- The American delegate to the United Nations Trusteeship Council today censured the Iraq representative on the Council for an allegation made by the latter yesterday that the Palestine partition decision was adopted by the General Assembly under pressure from the United States.

"I am instructed by my government to state that this allegation is untrue, is not supported by facts, and is completely rejected by my government," the U.S. delegate said in a formal statement at the Council session. He emphasized that the American delegation will continue to participate in the implementation of the Trusteeship Council's task of preparing a statute for the City of Jerusalem and administering the city on behalf of the U.N."

The Chinese delegate on the Council told the session that the position of the Chinese Government on Palestine partition has not changed. He added that China will continue to participate in the technical work on Jerusalem "with no prejudice to any decision my government may take at a later stage." The statement is important because China's vote is badly needed to secure the minimum seven procedural votes at the Security Council when the Palestine report is considered there next week.

The Council has allotted time on its agenda for the Jewish Agency to make specific recommendations concerning certain sections of the working group's draft of a statute. It must decide on a proposal giving non-Palestinian Jews immigration priority into the city. The police force of the city of Jerusalem would act as a military force in defense of the city, if the Council accepts a recommendation to that effect from its sub-group on an international statute for the city, it was revealed today.

Secretary-General Trygve Lie today released the letter he sent to the Jewish Agency in response to a formal request by the Agency that he forward its charges and documented proof of aggression to the Security Council. Although he does not refuse the Agency request, Mr. Lie expressed confidence that the Security Council will receive "an accurate account of the prevailing situation" in Palestine.

Colonial Secretary Tells U.N. Commission Not To Go To Palestine Now

After three hours of cross-examination by all five members of the Palestine Commission, British Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones today held firm to the British position against early entrance of the Commission into Palestine, against early formation of a militia, and against the early formation of Provisional Councils of Government in Palestine.

Today's questions and answers ranged over all major issues between the Commission and the British Government on implementation of partition, and at times reached decisive differences bordering on open breaks.

At the end of insistent queries by the Commission members, chiefly on the possibility of getting their work done in the two weeks allowed them by the Mandatory Power, Chairman Karel Lisicky virtually accused the British of unilateral action, especially in the withdrawal of troops.

Such a withdrawal, Lisicky repeatedly argued, must, by the decision of the General Assembly, be coordinated with the plans of the Commission. Creech-Jones replied that Britain was concerned only with the withdrawal of her forces as a purely military operation. He added that the Commission would be supplied with directives to local commanders, despite Lisicky's protest that the plan must be executed the other way around.

BERLIN JEWISH COMMUNITY HOLDS FREE ELECTIONS FOR FIRST TIME IN 15 YEARS

MUNICH, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- For the first time in 15 years the Jewish Community of Berlin held free elections today for members of the community council.

Of the 21 councillors elected, ten are Liberals, six are members of the Jewish National Unity Party and the remaining five are independents. The major plank in the platforms of both the Liberal and Unity candidates was a declaration that "Palestine is the Jewish people's homeland."

ARRESTS OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN ITALY INCREASING DAILY; I.R.O., J.D.C. PROTEST TO GOVT.

ROME, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Arrests of Jewish refugees by Italian police are increasing daily, it was revealed here today. The International Refugee Organization, the J.D.C. and the Central Refugee Committee are negotiating with the Italian Government to halt arrests which are not based on formal charges and the detention of refugees without trial.

The authorities are arresting refugees and DP's who arrived after April 1, 1947, when the government halted issuance of permits of temporary stay. During the negotiations the government proposed that the I.R.O. take over the operation of detention camps for the refugees who have been arrested for not possessing a permit. The I.R.O. refused, asserting that it would not act as a police force, but asked the government for permission to extend aid to the "undesirable" detainees.

SEVEN NAZI GENERALS GET PRISON TERMS FOR MURDER OF CIVILIANS, DEPORTATION OF JEWS

MUNICH, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Seven Nazi generals were today convicted by an American military tribunal here of various war crimes including the murder of civilians and the deportation of large numbers of Jews to Nazi concentration camps and slave labor gangs.

The generals, headed by Field Marshal Wilhelm List, over-all Nazi commander in the Balkans, received prison sentences ranging from seven years to life imprisonment, in the case of List. Two other generals were acquitted. All served in the Balkans during the occupation.

BRITAIN TO LAUNCH INQUIRY INTO MASSACRE OF JEWS IN ADEN; SENDS SPECIAL COMMISSION

LONDON, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- An official inquiry into the anti-Jewish riots in the British protectorate of Aden, on the Arabian Peninsula, in which at least 76 Jews lost their lives and over a hundred others were injured, will be launched within a week, Lt. Col. David Rees-Williams, Under Secretary for Colonies, announced in the House of Commons.

He stated that Sir Harry Trusted, former Chief Justice of the Federated Malay States, will head the commission of inquiry. The investigation will be held in the presence of representatives of all interested parties, although Trusted is empowered to hold any part of the hearings in camera, if he believes it necessary. The massacre took place last December, after the U.N. partition decision.

ROMANIAN JEWS RECEIVE LARGE SHIPMENTS OF J.D.C. PASSOVER SUPPLIES; ENTER DUTY-FREE

BUCHAREST, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- The Rumanian office of the Joint Distribution Committee has received two large shipments of supplies for the Passover holidays, it was announced here today. They include 1,100 tons of matzoth, clothing and shoes. All J.D.C. supplies are exempt from import duties.

PUBLISHER CONVICTED IN CANADA ON CHARGE OF SPREADING ANTI-JEWISH PROPAGANDA

MONTREAL, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- The publisher of a pamphlet attacking Jews, Thomas P. Graham, of Vancouver, was convicted today on a charge of seditious libel brought against him by the Attorney General of the province. The charge was made in connection with several hundred pamphlets entitled "Boycott all Jews - Down with Jewocracy," which were mailed to trade unions and business establishments throughout Canada.

The jury ruled Graham guilty of intending to incite "ill-will between different classes of His Majesty's subjects." At the opening of the trial, Attorney-General Gordon S. Wismer, personally prosecuting, warned that if anti-Semitism was allowed to continue unrestricted in Canada it could result in "pogroms and attacks," similar to those in some foreign countries.

"If attacks on Jews such as the accused is alleged to have made are proper, there's no reason why tomorrow where they may not be similar attacks on Orangemen or Roman Catholics," said Mr. Wismer. His personal appearance, he declared, emphasized the "gravity" with which the Crown viewed the offense.

Graham will be sentenced at the end of the trial, and may be deported at the end of his term since he is living temporarily in Canada. He came from Newcastle-on-Tyne, England.

ANTI-JEWISH GROUPS IN CHILE GROWING STRONGER DUE TO NEW GOVERNMENT POLICY

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Members of the Arab colony in Chile and of the ACHA, Chilean reactionary and anti-Semitic organization, are believed to be responsible for the recent bombing of the Israelite Club in Santiago, according to a report from a reliable source in Chile received here today.

The report says that Arabs and ACHA members are cooperating closely in Chile, with the former providing funds for the ACHA. Their position has recently become stronger due to a change of policy by President Gonzalez Videla who, although he is not supporting anti-Semitism, has made a complete about-face from his former pro-Zionist position.

President Videla, the report emphasizes, has not as yet made any attempt to ban the publication of numerous anti-Semitic sheets which have been springing up in Chile. Chilean Jews feel that the present situation is deteriorating, but hope that no further attempts to develop the anti-Semitic activities will be made.

JEWISH CONGRESS VOICES CONCERN OVER PROPOSED NEW CITIZENSHIP BILL IN POLAND

NEW YORK, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress today expressed concern over provisions of a proposed bill presently being studied by the Polish Government which would deprive all Polish nationals who fail to return to Poland within three months after publication of the legislation of certain legal rights.

Dr. Robert S. Marcus, acting political director of the World Jewish Congress, addressed a letter to the Polish Ambassador at Washington, urging him to convey the feelings of the Congress to his government so that Jewish emigrants from Poland would not be placed under legal disabilities resulting from a situation not of their making.

PALESTINE REVISIONIST LEADER SAYS JEWS WILL BEGIN ALL-OUT FIGHT IF ARABS NOT CHECKED

NEW YORK, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- "Unless the United Nations and the United States will act to check Arab aggression immediately, the Jews of Palestine will be compelled to abandon their present policy and launch an all-out fight for the whole of Palestine," Dr. Arieh Altman, president of the United Zionists-Revisionists of Palestine, who has just arrived in this country, told a news conference here today.

The head of the second largest political party in Palestine stated that "the Jews of Palestine, the Middle East and Europe, whose national interest is closely linked with the Western democracies, are being pushed by stupid and arrogant British policy into the arms of Soviet Russia."

Dr. Altman pointed out that "those who know the facts realize that at the time the Arabs declared war in Palestine, the Jews were strong enough to capture the entire country, but if instead they practiced the policy of self-restraint, it was in the hope that the world would help implement the United Nations decision."

PALESTINE ECONOMIC CORPORATION PLANS TO INCREASE INVESTMENTS, JULIUS SIMON SAYS

NEW YORK, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- The Palestine Economic Corporation is planning to expand its operations in Palestine, Julius Simon, president, who has just returned from a tour of inspection there, said today.

Pointing out that by far the largest part of the P.E.C.'s investments are in Jewish areas, Simon said the Corporation now has \$5,000,000 invested in Palestine and plans to increase that sum shortly. He expressed the belief that American exporters, particularly of industrial equipment, will find "relatively unlimited" opportunities in Palestine.

PLAN TO SET UP JEWISH STEAMSHIP LINE BETWEEN HAIFA AND N.Y. BY MAY 15 REVEALED

NEW YORK, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- The establishment of a Jewish-owned steamship line between New York and Haifa is expected to be completed by May 15, the date of the termination of Britain's mandate in Palestine, Moshe Pomrok, an official of the Palestine Maritime League, announced today.

Pomrok said he had been conducting negotiations here for the past five months on plans to purchase and operate 18 passenger and cargo vessels which would serve the Jewish state in Palestine. He said the plan has the backing of the Jewish Agency and the Histadruth. "More than \$24,000,000 could be gained annually for Palestine if it developed its own merchant marine," Pomrok said.

JOHN GARFIELD RECEIVES AWARD FOR FURTHERING UNDERSTANDING AMONG RACIAL GROUPS

NEW YORK, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- John Garfield, stage and screen star, was today named winner of the LaGuardia Award for Stage and Screen, according to an announcement by the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League. The award was made because Garfield professionally had furthered the cause of better understanding among various religious and racial groups, the League announcement said.